

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-4 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-4 stand rejected. No claims are amended herein. During our review of the Amendment in Response to Final Office Action filed April 23, 2007, we discovered that part of the partial English language translation of the left column of page 27 of Exhibit A was cut off. Thus, attached hereto as Exhibit A is another copy of Exhibit A, Hirotani, "Standard Orthopaedics," 3rd Ed., Terayama et al., Eds., 1998, page 27, wherein a more complete translation is provided at the bottom of the left column. Entry thereof and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

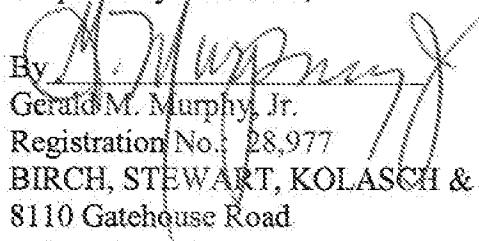
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Thomas J. Siepmann, Ph.D., Registration No 57,374, at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 5, 2007

Respectfully submitted,


By 
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.
Registration No. 28,977
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant.

Attachments: Exhibit A - Hirotani, "Standard Orthopaedics," 3rd Ed., Terayama et al., Eds. 1998, page 27

